



The Calgary Stampers

Jay McNeil, President

In This Issue

- 1 Speaker May 21st
Jay McNeil, President
'The Calgary Stampers'
Speaker June 18th
Myles McDougall, MLA for Fish Creek
- 2 Meeting Minutes May 21st
- 3 Meeting Minutes May 21st cont'd
Calgary Reads Book Sale May 11th
- 4 The Calgary Stampers cont'd
World Affairs and Alberta
- 5 Rotary Challenger Park Family Day June 15th
Evening Meeting @ The Point May 30th
- 6 Meeting Minutes June 18th
Good News Item
- 7 President Anthony's Year in Review
Casino Fundraiser
- 8 Indigenous Experience
Evening Meeting June 27th
Dawgs Baseball
- 9 A Thank You Card !
- 10 What's Up!
Did You Know ?
Stampede BBQ July 12th



Our Guest Speaker, Jay McNeil, President of the Calgary Stampers was introduced by Tammy Truman. Jay has a bachelor of business administration from Kent State University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Fredericton.



He played for the Calgary Stampers from 1994 to 2007 as an offensive lineman, earning CFL All-Star recognition on three occasions, and West division All-Star honours six times. He was a member of the Grey Cup championship teams in 1998 and 2001, and was voted by teammates as the winner of the President's Ring for excellence on and off the field. After his playing career ended, Jay remained in Calgary and built a strong business career, leading sales and business operations for several companies. He also maintained strong ties to football by serving as a trustee of the CFL players pension plan, and as VP of the CFL Players Association. He also continued his association with the Stampers, acting as a community ambassador for the team's Alumni Association. Jay was appointed team President on January 23, 2024. He had been the VP of business operations since September 2022.

cont'd on page 4 ...

World Affairs and Alberta

Myles McDougall, MLA for Fish Creek



Bev introduced Myles McDougall, MLA Fish Creek. Myles McDougall had a varied career as an economist, corporate executive, technology entrepreneur, management consultant, advisor and teacher. He has advised government and global investment funds on the energy sectors, and company valuations in Latin American, US, and European markets. Born in Sudbury Ontario, he moved to Calgary in the last year of high school, and attended the University of Calgary, and completed a degree in Political Science. He

got an offer to work as an Executive Assistant to the Provincial Treasurer of Alberta, and spent 4 years under the dome in the Legislature. Afterwards he completed his MBA at Ivey School in London Ontario, and worked in Argentina, and Brazil where he became an equity analyst in oil and gas for Latin America. Several years later he moved to New York, where he became an oil and gas analyst for US oil and gas majors, then was transferred to London where he worked with emerging market oil and gas, and then on to European oil majors. Myles came back to Calgary with his wife and son and started a small



cont'd on page 4 ...

2023-2024 Officers and Directors

Rob Wolfson, President
TBD, President Elect
Anthony Tonkinson, Past President
Dale Perret, Secretary
Vlad Sasarman, Treasurer

Pam Montgomery, International Service
Dean White, Youth Service
Keith Wellon, Community Service
Neil Beatty, Club Service
Brennen Pell, Club Operations
Peter Bickham, Club Financial
Sharon Fraiman, Membership
Hank Popoff, Rotary Foundation

RI President Stephanie Urchick
Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania USA
District 5360 Governor Christina Hassan
Rotary Club of Calgary Fish Creek

P.O. Box # 42041
Southland Crossing RPO
Calgary, Alberta T2J 7A6
info@chinookrotary.org
www.ChinookRotary.org





President Anthony called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all in attendance. He noted that our Rotary Theme is to "Create Hope in the World".

We had 33 participants at our meeting today which included 5 **Guests**: Guest Speaker Jay McNeil, Kim Levenson, guest of Sharon, Jim Zackowski, Director



of Rotary Challenger Park, Dennis Janewshi, guest of Dean, and Don Taylor, a visiting Rotarian from the Stampede Club. Our guests were introduced by John Charrett and welcomed with our "Welcome to Rotary" verse.

Anthony **thanked** Paul for being our scribe today. He also thanked John Charrett and Jim Hennessy for being our Greeters today and for making everyone feel welcome. He then thanked George VS for arranging our notification of meetings and coordination with the Carriage House, and also taking photographs each week. He thanked Stephen and Anne for all they do for our Club, most notably the regular production of our e-Arch. In addition he thanked both Hank and Pam for operating our payment system.

Indigenous Acknowledgment

Our Rotary Club acknowledges that we live, work and play on the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda. The City of Calgary is also home to the Metis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

Club Business

Rotary Friendship Exchange

Anthony announced that there is a Rotary Friendship Exchange

group outbound to Brazil in November. Subsequently the Brazil group will come to Calgary next July, and Rotary will be looking for host families.

Sunshine Report

Hank reported that Al Pettigrew is back at the Legion playing Crib after having his recent surgery so recovery is underway. Pat reported that Ian Burgess is at home recovering from COVID.



Good News/Bad News

- Hank announced that he had some bad news to report. It seems that he had not received the standard email announcing the upcoming meeting for this week so he proceeded to contact George, telling him that somehow there had been an error and that his confirmation had not been sent. However, upon conducting a more thorough search of his "in basket", he found that the usual email had been received. He put five dollars into the pot as an apology for the mixup.



Jim Hennessy announced that he had recently had successful cataract surgery on both his eyes, and that everything had gone well.



Sharon requested our members to consider attending the **Canadian MDA dinner fundraising event** being held June 2nd (Sunday) at the Carriage House. She confirmed that Bev and Anthony will be attending, and it would be wonderful if we could arrange a Rotary table at the event. The Canadian MDA organization (for which Sharon is the Western Regional Director) is responsible for raising funds in Canada to

assist the EMS systems and services which are vital in Israel as well as other areas of the world.

"Calgary Reads" Book Sale

Joe Hooper summarized the recently completed Book Sale which was organized by the Rotary Club of Calgary, and for which Chinook had been asked to provide volunteers to conduct parking responsibilities at the event. Management was very pleased with the job done by our volunteers, which will likely mean that we will be invited back next year. Joe thanked all our volunteers and advised that this event would raise \$10,000 for the Rotary Club Of Calgary Chinook. He noted also that in addition to Chinook, there were at least three other Rotary clubs helping with inside volunteers at this event.

Chase the Ace

George V S handled our 'Chase the Ace' for this week. The weekly winner was John Charrett who won \$72. Unfortunately for him, he did not pick the Ace. The pot is currently sitting at \$552.



Get to Know Our Members

Bob Montgomery



Bob started by asking whether anybody could guess what he and Joe Hooper had in common. It turns out that both are from New Brunswick. Bob is from Hartland, New Brunswick, also home to the longest covered bridge in the world at 1,282 feet. From grade 8 to 12 Bob crossed this bridge twice a day going to and from school. The bridge was built in 1901 and while the cost estimate for a concrete bridge was between \$70 and \$80 million, they decided to build the bridge

entirely out of wood so it actually cost \$27 million. In 1922 the government made major repairs to the bridge and it was at that time that they covered the structure to protect the wood floor planking as much as possible from the effects of weather. In those days there were few cars and the traffic consisted mostly of horse drawn buggies, and sleighs during the winter. In 1945 a sidewalk was added.

After high school (1956) Bob actually worked on a crew replacing beams on this very bridge. He was regularly fishing out tools from the river bottom. Bob said this was great because every time he got out of the river his boss sent him home for the day. He started his university education at UNB in 1956, graduating with a BSC in 1961.

Bob wrapped up his comments at this point and advised that there would be a part two coming in the near future.

Our **Guest Speaker**, Jay McNeil, President of the Calgary Stampede was introduced by Tammy Truman.

A Historic Note from Jim Thompson:

In 1985 I was on the Stampeder Board of Directors. We were desperately trying to stop a hostile take over of the team by Ottawa interests. The decision was made to issue more than just director shares to the public in YYC. Our club bought 1,000 shares along with others doing likewise, which stopped the process immediately! The no-value certificate remains in our Historic records.

Dates to Remember

May 30th	Evening meeting at The Point, 5-30 to 7:30pm
June 4th	Regular meeting has been cancelled
June 5th	James Wheeler Davidson Luncheon at the Carriage House. All Rotarians are encouraged to attend. Dawn Farrell, CEO of Trans Mountain Corporation, will be the keynote speaker.
June 18th	Regular meeting at the Carriage House

Anthony thanked everyone for attending today, and asked all to stand and help close our meeting with a reading of Rotary's 4 Way Test.

Remember, "Create Hope in the World". Have a great Rotary week! Our meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Calgary Reads Book Sale May 11th

This was taken after our parking shift on Saturday May 11th. By the smiles, everyone must have had fun! *Janet Popoff*



This message was received by Secretary Dale. A special thanks to Joe and Neil for setting this up and to Paul G for arranging the shifts

Thank You to Our Stewards

Rotarians, your role in this book sale has meant so much to our community!

- The barbecue you hosted to show our gratitude to volunteers...
- The hours you spent helping to prepare bank deposits...
- The hours you spent on the floor helping to sort and sell books...
- **The terrific guidance you showed in the parking lot (Calgary Chinook Club!)...**

Anthony C Tonkinson

Jay began his remarks by thanking Tammy for her introduction, and noted that after 20 years of our hearing from John Huffnagle every spring, it was going to be difficult to live up to his example. He highlighted that the preseason is set to begin this Saturday at McMahon Stadium with a game against the BC Lions.

He commented that the 2023 football season was a disappointing one for Stampeder management, as they finished with six wins and 12 losses, which clearly was not good enough. Also, their attendance was down in 2023. He noted that they basically need to win a Grey Cup Championship in 2024 ... that's their goal. "Everything we have done over the off-season is towards this end." They have signed several new players and have drafted good looking Canadian talent over the off-season, and are in the process of working hard at this year's training camp. He also noted that last year they had 12 players lost to injury. This is not an excuse, but simply a fact. He noted that the team is going to be tested soon and often as they will be playing the league's four best teams seven times in the early part of the 2024 season.

In 2015 the team's season ticket holders numbered 21,500, whereas in 2023, it had slipped to 13,800 season ticket holders. While this is certainly a challenge for the team, he acknowledged that it is difficult to compete with someone sitting in their easy chair at home, warm and watching their 40 inch colour high definition television. Weather wasn't kind in 2023 with seemingly endless forest fire smoke, and at times hazardous weather.

Management have put together plans to invest in season-ticket holders by saving them money and improving their experience. In addition they are committed to improving engagement by compelling fans to come out to the game. This can only be done by providing a great game on the field, live entertainment whenever possible, and player interaction after the game. They are working on developing fan growth for the future as they absolutely must introduce the CFL to younger fans who develop into future season-ticket holders. In this regard, they are developing a new Social Platform and are interacting with new Canadians by partnering with flag football leagues in the city and

creating mentorship programs. They want everyone to feel welcome at McMahon on game day.

Jay assured everyone that if you come out to a game this year, you will be entertained.

In order to improve their overall community brand, they set a goal to participate in 250 charity appearances during the year, and he was pleased to note that in 2023, their players and staff participated in 422 charity appearances. He noted that their challenge is to find 229,510 people to buy one game ticket during this season, and if they could do this (with their current 35,000 seating capacity), they would sell out all their home games.

Jay then opened the floor to questions which led to a number of interesting topics being discussed. For example, the discussion on tailgating led Jay to say that the Stampeder fans have the best tailgating in the CFL. With regard to ticket sales, Calgary used to be first in the CFL and have now slipped to fourth. Winnipeg is the most successful at this point. He confirmed that Wally Buono is going up on the Stampeder's Wall of Fame this summer on July 21, an honour which has been well earned. With regard to the importance of a new football stadium for Calgary, Jake confirmed that this is certainly needed, and that they continue at every level to encourage such a development. It was suggested that perhaps the members of our club could hold an offsite meeting by attending a Stampede game as a group. Jay thought this was a wonderful idea and offered to do everything he could to facilitate such an arrangement.

Tammy thanked Jay for his informative presentation, confirming a donation to Rotary's Polio Plus in appreciation of his visit today.



World Affairs and Alberta

... cont'd from page 1

technology company involved in the oil and gas sector focused on reducing CO2 emissions from the oil sands. He sold that and became the CFO of another technology company, then in the last election, became MLA for Calgary Fish Creek. He is currently Chair of the UCP Calgary caucus.

Myles spoke eloquently about world affairs pertaining to investment, energy, climate change, and fiscal responsibility. He commented on a societal mental illness explosion caused by social media and drug addiction. He spoke of Canada's carbon tax making us less competitive. He said that Alberta is the strongest economy in Canada, but we are vulnerable due to the federal attack on oil production.

(Your scribe apologizes for the poor summary of his remarks. He spoke quickly, without notes which made it difficult to get it all. He promised to send me an outline of the presentation, but I have not received one a week later.)

Hank thanked Myles and presented a Polio certificate.



A Light Note ...

- Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you right out!
- Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops.
- My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.

Rotary Challenger Park Family Day June 15th

Photos from the annual Family Day at the Rotary Challenger Park. Dale Perret, Paul Gaudet and myself volunteered to do the traffic control / parking. We were very lucky that the rain held off til just 5 minutes before the scheduled finish! Numbers were lower than normal because of the bad forecast, but still close to a thousand people I think. It is a terrific facility and it was a great event. For those who use the facility but also open to all. From petting zoo & horse cart & motorcycle rides to bouncy castle, fire truck, police car, Indigenous dancing & singers on the mobile Stampede stage. Plus a free BBQ.

Keith Wellon



Jim Zackowski
GM of Rotary Challenger Park



Evening Meeting @ The Point May 30th



Chinook Rotary Annual Dues ... \$300 due now ! IT'S TIME!

If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so!
You can easily pay by e-transfer to info@chinookrotary.org

Pay \$300 now ... or wait til September and pay \$350!



**DON'T DELAY!
PAY YOUR
DUES TODAY!**



Greeter: Sandy Swan

Attendance: 34 including Don Taylor and Dave Read of Stampede Club, Mike Colborne of Downtown Club, Martha Pasvoskoli, and Myles McDougall, guest speaker.

Pres Anthony **recognized** Hank, Neil and Peter for looking after the arrival of lunch guests. Also Stephen and Anne for their diligent work on the Arch, and George VS for organizing our Carriage House meetings.

Anthony also advised that he and Bev are going on a **Friendship Exchange** to Brazil in November, and a group from Brazil will be visiting Canada in July 2025, when there will be opportunity for us to provide accommodation.

Hank thanked all who donated to the **RI Foundation** in the past Rotary year.

Bruce reminded us our next **casino** is August 26/27 at Pure Casino (formerly Cash Casino).

Photos courtesy George Van Schaick

Anthony **reviewed** his year as President and recognized many Chinookers for their contributions. His remarks are on page 7

Chase the Ace: Rob won \$72. The Ace lives for another day! Next month there are 4 meetings, so \$40 to participate.



Speaker: Bev introduced Myles McDougall, MLA for Fish Creek.



Good News Item

June 18th is the 48th Anniversary of my admission to the Alberta Law Society. I was going to announce it at the meeting today but there was no time.

Bill Stemp

Congratulations

Welcoming Brennen, Keith, Vlad and Jim. Huge thank you to Vlad for taking on the Accounting role. A big thank you to Stephen. He bravely tried to take on the task, but quickly realized it was not his skill set.

Brennen and Keith have both agreed to be Directors next year. The club will be all the better for them doing that. Keith has already made his presence felt. He is part of a group at the District level spearheading Diversity and Inclusion. He spent a Sunday at Camp Horizon having an Indigenous Experience with a small group of Rotarians.

Great to have Jim back. He has already joined the Rotary Inclusions Committee representing the Club.

New members Pam and Sharon joined the Board this year. Sharon has stepped up to take on the challenge of membership. Pam has been learning and assisting Graham with International Service and doing a great job.

This gives me great hope for the future of Chinook. A very big Thank You to the club members responsible for sponsoring these wonderful additions to our Roster. Namely Jim, Bob, and Pat. Also as Joe, Garth P and Neil are golfing buddies with Jim, I'm sure he didn't have much option, he had to come back.

Sharon joined us of her own free will and the club is lucky she picked us.

I owe huge debts of gratitude to firstly Bev. She worked really hard as Club President last year, and stepped down leaving processes in place for me to follow. She has job descriptions for all the Board Members, and has been pushing hard to have the committees in place for the start of Rob's year.

Thank you to the 23/24 Board members. Neil — he should be getting a gold watch for all the years he has been on the Board. Paul G — Mr Yes. He has never said no to any task I've ask him to do, and there have been lots. Ted — quietly and efficiently performed his duties. Dean has done amazing work with Roots 2 STEM.

What can I say about Dale!? She has kept me on track. She's been a great source of advice and direction. She has offered her secretarial services to Wayne and to Rob. This must be at least six years she will have filled the position.

George K organized the Christmas party and is planning other Fellowship activities. He set up the Farmer's Market Membership booth. If you worked the booth please stand and be acknowledged.

Tammy is helping to organize the group watching the Stamps play Winnipeg at the end of this month. Joe and Neil liaised with the Big Book Sale to handle the parking. In the wind-up we received an honourable mention for the job we did. If you worked that event please stand up and take a bow. We have been invited back and given more responsibility.

We did have a few ethnic dinners, and thanks to all those that attended. Lager at the Legion was always enjoyable and thanks to all those that joined us. Networking Night started by Rob is now being copied by other Clubs. I wish they would have joined us, but still it shows Rob's idea is a good one. Thanks to all those that

supported the Networking Night.

Several members went to Dean's for an afternoon at Roots 2 STEM. If you did this please stand and receive our thanks.

Keith spent a day learning about Indigenous ways. He also attended the District Conference in Drumheller along with Janet and Hank and Bev and I. As usual a great event and one every Rotarian should consider attending.

Michael did great work getting Speakers.

Paul H arranged the Greeters, who also set up the room and put everything away at the end of the meeting.

Hank, Neil and Peter worked collecting payment for lunch.

George VS sent out the lunch choices and worked with the hotel, making sure we had enough meals for the attendees.

Paul G was the Scribe with assists from Bob.

Stephen and Anne continued to amaze with The Arch.

Thanks George (and Bev filled in for) for taking lots of pictures to help and Anne and Stephen fill the pages of The Arch, and to all others who sent in pictures of their club activities.

Ron kept the youth programmes going.

Dale kept a close eye on local donations making sure our few dollars were well spent.

Finally a big thanks to Rob. I am so pleased he will represent our club at the international Convention.

To the Board, my heartfelt thanks to you for stepping up. That is Pam, Sharon and Dean entering the second year of their term and new comers Peter, Keith and Brennen, and the Executive Dale, Vlad, Rob and Wayne. Wayne is not totally on board as he has a very aged family member he helps look after. Muriel is fully supportive which is great. Fingers crossed he can become President. He will do a great job. If anyone wants to be a Director, Neil would only be too happy to step down.

Thanks again everyone for all your support this year. As I said last time I was President, it doesn't matter what the President does or screws up, the club keeps on functioning.

Casino Fundraiser

**Please volunteer at our Casino
at Pure Casino Calgary
August 26 and 27, 2024.**



As you are all aware this is the major project that raises funds for our club to operate our charitable programs. I have filled in members' names as they have approached me during our meetings, and tried to give their preferred positions on a first come basis. Please feel free to contact me if I have assigned you to a shift that you cannot fill, and I will try to re-assign you.

I look forward to hearing from you to volunteer for those positions that still need to be filled.

Bruce Bohnet

Indigenous Experience @ Camp Horizon May 26th

Some pictures from a great day !!

Keith Wellon



Evening Meeting @ The Point June 27th



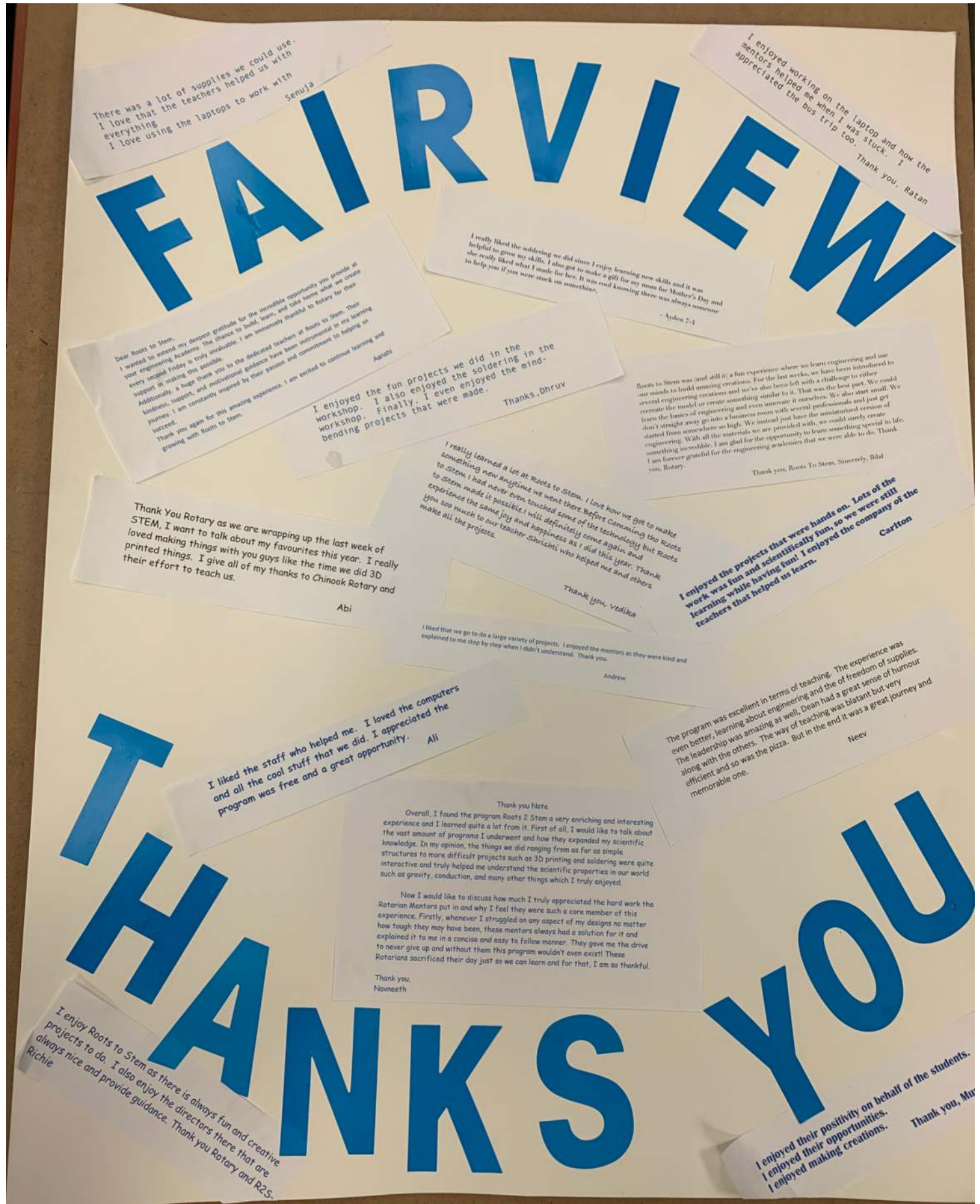
Dawgs Baseball !! — Tuesday July 30th

We are arranging a visit to a Dawgs baseball game, on the Fortis Patio on the third base line. We need confirmation from a minimum of 20 attendees before we can book the Patio location, as we need to pay a \$900 non refundable booking fee (20 x \$45 pp) at the time of booking. We can host up to 40 once we reach the minimum. The cost per person is \$45 which pays for the entry, the use of the Patio, as well as a food item, soft drink and bag of chips. The choices for the food item are a hot dog, hamburger, beef brisket sandwich, or a steak (note the steak will cost an additional \$10). They will deliver our food choices to our Patio shortly after the game starts. Everyone who is interested email Paul (gaudetco@shaw.ca) confirming your decision to attend, and selecting your meal choice. Said confirmation will commit you to pay the \$45 pp. E-transfer the funds to Paul, or hand them to him at one of our upcoming meetings.

George Kimura and Paul Gaudet

This is a card made by the students from Fairview School for the Mentoring program.

Dean White



Maternal and Child Health Month

July 2nd	President Anthony's final meeting and President Rob's first meeting
July 16th	TBA
July 12th	Club Social — Stampede lunch meeting @ Norse Landscaping Thank you Brennen !! (see poster below for details)
July 30th	Dawgs Baseball Game, Fortis Patio, Seaman Stadium, Okotoks

Membership and New Club Development Month

August 13th	Annual Nature Park meeting
August 20th	Rob Wolfson — Rotary International Convention presentation Joe Hooper — Rotary Curling 2024/25
August 26th - 27th	Casino fundraiser @ 'Pure Casino', 1420 Meridian Rd NE — contact Bruce Bohnet to sign up

Rotary Foundation Month

November	Friendship Exchange to Brazil
----------	-------------------------------



Did You Know ?

Jim Thompson, President 81/82, Charter Member

Looking Back, a Long Time Member's Recall

I am one of two Charter Members still on the Roster of the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook, chartered in RI March 14th 1977. I was born before Disneyland was established, before Hawaii became a state, before Newfoundland became a province, and a few months before the USA entered WW11. This month Judy and I celebrated our 59th wedding anniversary. We were blessed to have 4 children over the years, 2 boys and 2 girls, all well educated, all married, and between them all, have presented us with 6 granddaughters and 2 grandsons, all healthy interesting off spring making their way in what might be referred to as a very disturbing world. Our 4 kids are all Paul Harris Fellows, our two sons both are RYLA recipients, one granddaughter was selected by another Calgary Rotary club to be in the Early Start Rotary program, and proudly announce to Grandpa that she too was in Rotary!

In March I celebrated 47 years uninterrupted membership in this Rotary club, having served as Secretary, Director, several committee Chairs, President 81/82, Past President, plus many other positions in District and RI appointments. These included Secretary, PR rep for District governor Bob Dawson, Co Chair of the 1982 RI convention in Dallas, and Canadian Breakfast committee, member of the Calgary Rotary delegation to bid for the 1996 RI Convention, then after the successful bid, serve on the Host organizing convention committee, for that convention. Both of the latter two assignments required travel on several occasions to Dallas and to RI headquarters in Evanston ILL. At RI headquarters, I marvelled at the vastness, at the amount of staff to serve the thousands of Rotarians, Clubs and Districts in something like 30 plus languages. Viewing Paul Harris' duplicate office with his treasures from travelling to establish Rotary everywhere, was an eye opener when one considered how difficult it was to travel in the early 1900s. His souvenirs included many from New Zealand ... can you imagine that trip from Chicago in those times?

I took great pleasure in hosting numerous fellowship trips to Invermere, usually 8 members at a time, to golf with members of the Invermere club while staying at our home there. In winter we did the same fellowship junkets to Panorama, skiing and staying at lodges there, one provided by member Norm Russell (now deceased). The late Jimmy Costello, and member John McBean provided motor homes parked on our driveway for additional accommodation, when the summer ventures got much bigger. The inclusion of female members in our Rotary club beginning in

1995, meant these away social programs with the billeting arrangements, had to correctly change, or discontinue. We chose to discontinue. The huge golf Trophy, for the Kootenay Klassic, remains in Invermere. We did try fund raising golf tournaments later in Calgary, both a Pro Am and Member/guest but there were so many similar events, a decision was made to abandon these.

In another column I will review the history of our major urban project, The Nature Park, an international RI award winning venture in Calgary, exclusively established by The Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook.

Let's continue to rebuild and refresh the spirit of "Service above Self".

NORSE LANDSCAPES LTD

STAMPEDE BBQ



July 12, 2024
11:30 - 3:30 pm

live Music

#310, 7309 Flint Rd SE

Accepting cash donations for the kidney foundation